

What is claimed is:

1. An apparatus for mounting a component onto a substrate, comprising:
 - a component supply device for supplying a component to be mounted onto a substrate;
 - 5 a holder for receiving the component from said component supply device and holding the component; and
 - a controller for
 - (i) prohibiting said holder from mounting the component, when held by said holder, onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would make an interference with another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, and
 - 10 (ii) causing said holder to mount the component, when held by said holder, onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would not make an interference with another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate.

2. The apparatus according to claim 1, wherein
 - said controller is also for correcting a position of said holder relative to the substrate, when the component is held by said holder and said controller makes the judgement that said holder would make an interference with the another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, and
 - (i) prohibiting said holder, after the position of said holder relative to the substrate has been corrected, from mounting the component held by said holder onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would make an

interference with the another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, and

5 (ii) causing said holder, after the position of said holder relative to the substrate has been corrected, to mount the component held by said holder onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would not make an interference with the another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate.

3. The apparatus according to claim 1, further comprising:

10 an image processor for recognizing the another component mounted on the substrate, wherein

said controller is for acquiring information pertaining to the recognizing of the another component by said image processor, and then

15 (i) prohibiting said holder from mounting the component, when held by said holder, onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would make an interference with the another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, and

20 (ii) causing said holder to mount the component, when held by said holder, onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would not make an interference with the another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate.

4. An apparatus for mounting a component onto a substrate, comprising:

25 a component supply device for supplying a component to be mounted onto a substrate;

a holder for receiving the component from said component supply device and holding the component;

an image processor for recognizing a position of the component, when held by said holder, relative to said holder; and

5 a controller for

(i) prohibiting said holder from mounting the component, when held by said holder, onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would make an interference with another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, and

10 (ii) correcting the position of the component, when held by said holder, relative to said holder and then causing said holder to mount the component onto the substrate when said controller makes a judgement that said holder would not make an interference with another component mounted on the substrate were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate.

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5. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

said controller is for making a judgement that said holder would not make an interference with another component mounted on the substrate, were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, by determining that the 20 component held by said holder has a height that is greater than a height of the another component mounted on the substrate.

6. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

said controller is for making a judgement that said holder would make an interference with another component mounted on the substrate, were the component 25

held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, by

- (i) defining a reference area for the another component mounted on the substrate,
- 5 (ii) assuming that the position of the component, held by said holder, relative to said holder has been corrected, and
- (iii) determining that at least a part of said holder, while holding the component with the position assumed to be corrected, falls outside the reference area.

7. The apparatus according to claim 4, wherein

10 said controller is for making a judgement that said holder would make an interference with another component mounted on the substrate, were the component held by said holder attempted to be mounted onto the substrate, by

- (i) assuming that the position of the component, held by said holder, relative to said holder has been corrected, and
- 15 (ii) determining that at least a part of said holder, while holding the component with the position assumed to be corrected, overlaps the another component mounted on the substrate.

8. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

20 said controller is also for defining a reference area for the another component mounted on the substrate.

9. The apparatus according to claim 7, wherein

25 said controller is also for defining a reference area, that extends from an outline of the another component mounted on the substrate, for the another component

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mounted on the substrate.

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